Bleeding from a Gastric Hyperplastic Polyp during Anticoagulation Therapy

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A 73-year-old man was admitted to our hospital with complaints of tarry stools. He had been receiving warfarin anticoagulant therapy for severe left ventricular dysfunction. Prothrombin time international normalized ratio had been maintained within 2.0-3.0. Esophagogastroduodenoscopy revealed a polypoid lesion about 10 mm in diameter on the greater curvature of the stomach with oozing (Picture 1). No other bleeding points in the stomach were apparent. Bleeding from a gastric polypoid lesion was diagnosed and hemorrhage was controlled endoscopically by placement of a hemoclip. After treatment, GI bleeding was resolved. The polypoid lesion was endoscopically resected thereafter.

Pathological findings revealed typical hyperplastic polyps (Picture 2). No abnormal vascular structures or malignant tissues were identified. 13C-urea breath test performed after treatment showed a positive result for urease activity.

Bleeding from a gastric polyp may occasionally occur (1). In the present case, anticoagulant therapy may have provoked bleeding from the gastric hyperplastic polyp. The risk of bleeding from gastric hyperplastic polyp should be considered when anticoagulant therapy is administered.

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Reference